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FOREWORD

I am pleased to present this Fifteenth Edition of the *Status Report on Missouri's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Problems*. Alcohol and drug abuse are behavioral problems with wide-ranging consequences. Substance abuse has undesirable social, mental health, medical, legal, productivity, and economic impacts on individuals, families, and society.

The *Status Report* monitors many of the unfortunate events that result from substance abuse. It includes data collected throughout Missouri and reported to state agencies, providing illustrative charts and county-level tables on alcohol and drug abuse indicators. Summary data from treatment and intervention programs funded by the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse provide additional knowledge on substance abuse patterns. The report also compares Missouri and national rates of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drug use. This edition of the *Status Report* includes an Executive Summary for quick reference on major topics.

The Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse has district and satellite offices located in Kansas City, Saint Louis, Jefferson City, Springfield, and Rolla. District staff can provide additional information and assistance regarding prevention, treatment, and compulsive gambling services. Please refer to the contacts listed on the district map in the *Status Report* appendix.

Inquiries and comments pertaining to the *Status Report* should be directed to the Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Research and Statistics Unit. The 2002-2009 editions are accessible at this website:

<http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/ada/rpts/status.htm>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Stringer".

Mark Stringer